



# Whole Grain-Rich Exemptions for the 2018-2019 School Year and Flavored Milk flexibility

Sponsor Name:

West Ada School District

The implementation of the whole grain-rich requirement was phased in over a period of three school years. Half of the grains offered in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) were required to be at least whole grain-rich effective July 1, 2012 (SY 2012-2013). Half of the grains offered in the SBP were required to be at least whole grain-rich effective July 1, 2013 (SY 2013-2014). All grains offered in the NSLP and SBP were required to be at least whole grain-rich effective July 1, 2014 (SY 2014-2015). This waiver now includes the fat-free flavored fluid milk requirement that was implemented in 2013-14.

An interim final rule published on November 30, 2017 (82 FR 56703) provides Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators targeted flexibilities for milk, whole grains, and sodium requirements for School Year (SY) 2018-2019. This memorandum summarizes the flexibilities that will be effective July 1, 2018. The following three **flexibilities apply to SY 2018-2019 only**. USDA is currently developing a final rule that will address the availability of flexibilities beyond SY 2018-2019.

SFAs granted an exemption must comply with the requirement to offer at least half of the grains as whole grain-rich products. **PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM FOR ALL PRODUCT(S) YOU WANT EXEMPTED, AND SUBMIT WITH ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION.**

The above SFA requests approval to be exempt for SY2018-19 for the following whole grain rich products:

Specific Product Name (s): Tortillas + Pizza

(Must provide all supporting documentation for approval)

Check all that apply

Financial hardship:

- ☐ SFAs records provided to the SA demonstrate a significant drop in meal counts after the whole grain-rich product(s) were offered, (provide meal count reflecting non-whole grain rich vs. the same menu using whole grain rich products) or
- ☐ SFAs experienced a significant cost increase when procuring the whole grain-rich product(s). (Provide invoices or purchase orders reflecting increased cost using whole grain rich vs non-whole grain rich products)

1. **Limited product availability:**

☐ SFA does not have access to a compliant whole grain-rich product(s) in the local market and would like to offer enriched grain item(s) temporarily. *(Submit all vendor lists of whole grain-rich products available to your district or lack thereof)*

2. **Unacceptable product quality:**

☒ The whole grain-rich product(s) offered by the SFA did not retain the desired texture or lost palatability during the typical holding time. *(Submit photos of product quality)*

3. **Poor student acceptability:**

☐ The whole grain-rich product(s) offered by the SFA received significant negative student/parent feedback or there was increased plate waste of that menu item when the whole grain-rich product(s) was offered multiple times and over a sustained period of time. *(Submit student/parent feedback surveys or comments sheets)*

**Additionally all requests must be accompanied by a copy of the menu demonstrating at least 50% of grain items are whole grain rich each week.**

☐ The above SFA intends to serve **1% Flavored Milk in 2018-19:**

All CNP operators in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP) have the option to offer flavored, low-fat (1 percent fat) milk as part of a reimbursable meal for **students in grades K through 12**. Flavored, low-fat (1 percent fat) milk may be provided to Special Milk Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program participants **6 years of age and older**. No demonstration of hardship will be required. Schools will also be able to offer flavored, low-fat milk as a competitive beverage for sale.

**Authorized Representative or Food Service Manager:**

Printed Name	Signature	Date
Jean Dean	Jean Dean	11-13-18

Return the completed form to Child Nutrition Programs via email to: [REDACTED]

*Send in all documentation required by the exemptions to be considered on this request.*

**FOR CNP USE ONLY**

Date Received	Date Approved	CNP Staff Initials
12/4/18	12/4/18	Lynnda Weopha

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider.**

**For Questions Contact**

Child Nutrition Programs

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